

**Applicant:** Takao Tsuruoka  
**Application No.:** Not Yet Known

### **IN THE ABSTRACT**

The An image pickup system of the present invention ~~comprises~~ has a noise estimating unit which estimates the amount of noise contained in a digitized signal from an image pickup element composed of an array of a plurality of pixels, either for each pixel or for each specified unit area ~~comprising~~ made up of a plurality of pixels, and a shooting ~~situation~~ conditions estimation unit which estimates the shooting ~~situation~~ condition when an image based on the signal is acquired. The amount of noise estimated by the noise estimating unit is corrected on the basis of the shooting ~~situation~~ conditions estimated by the shooting ~~situation~~ conditions estimation unit, and the noise in the signal is reduced on the basis of the corrected amount of noise.